



Electronic Data Reporting Template

Closing the Gap Results Report (Large Group)

School: Jefferson Junior High School

Target Group: 7th Grade CTE students

Target Group selection is based upon: 7th Grade Students in CTE classes October and November 2008

Key Word: Identify Career Interests and Goals

ABSTRACT:

The purpose of this project was to determine the effectiveness of the CTE Guidance Curriculum in helping 7th grade students understand the relationship between personality types, learning styles, and career interests and goals. We used two guidance lessons entitled - (1) Connecting Personality to Career Clusters and (2) Understanding Learning Styles. A pre-test questionnaire was used to assess the level of understanding prior to classroom instruction. The students were also given a post-test following the classroom instruction. The pre-test and post-test data were compared to one another. We expected to see an increase in understanding of the presented concepts. The data supported this expectation. The guidance curriculum is very effective in helping 7th grade students define and identify their personality types and learning styles, and the relationship this self-awareness has to career interests and goals.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Introduction

- We used the CTE Guidance Curriculum to help students identify career interests and goals based on understanding their personality types (Holland Codes) and learning styles.
- The purpose of the curriculum was to help students make the connection that understanding their interests and abilities helps them develop career interests and goals.
- We used pre-test and post-test data to determine the effectiveness of the curriculum to the level of student understanding.

Participants

- There were 191 students that participated in this project.
- The target group was 7th grade students that participated in CTE lessons #6 and #9 in October and November 2008.

Method

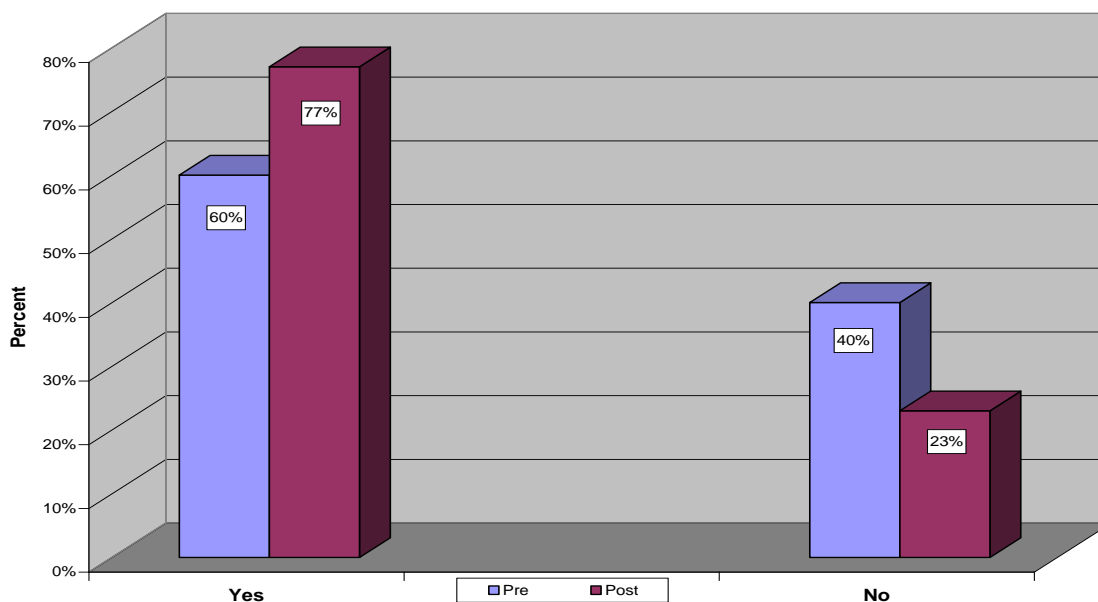
- The guidance activities were the CTE lessons #6 (Connecting Personality to Career Clusters) and #9 (Understanding Learning Styles). They were delivered by the counselor to 7th grade students in the CTE classes.
- The resources needed were the curriculum materials required for lessons #6 and #9. The materials include the state CTE Career Development Curriculum lesson plans. The supplemental materials were the video "Exploring Careers: What's Right For You?", Power Point presentation, six Holland Code Personality Type cards and posters, Assessing Your Learning Style survey and tally sheet, and One and Only Me worksheet.
- Our method of evaluation was to administer a pre-test of 5 questions. Next, we presented the guidance curriculum related to personality clusters and learning styles. Students then connected that self-awareness to career interests and goals. The curriculum delivery was followed by a post-test of the 5 questions to assess understanding of the content of the curriculum and how it relates to them. Data was obtained by comparing the answers of the post-test to the answers of the pre-test.
- Counselors: Ruth O'Hara, Jamie Jensen, Lynda Patrick, Krista Ryser

RESULTS

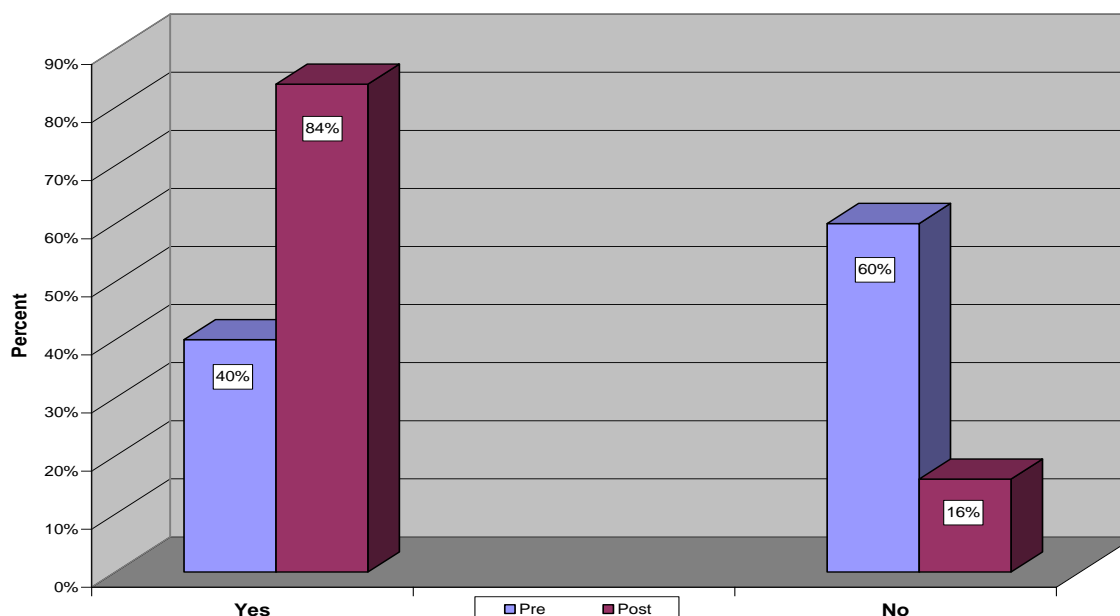
When comparing the pre-test and post-test data of the 5 questions related to CTE lessons #6 and #9 curriculum, each question showed an increase in understanding. The greatest increase was 44% on question #2 – I know my personality type and on question #5 – I have at least one career choice. The smallest increase was 8% on question #3 – I know that understanding my strengths, interests, and abilities can help me make good career choices. The average increase of understanding, when considering all five questions, was 27%.

Graphs:

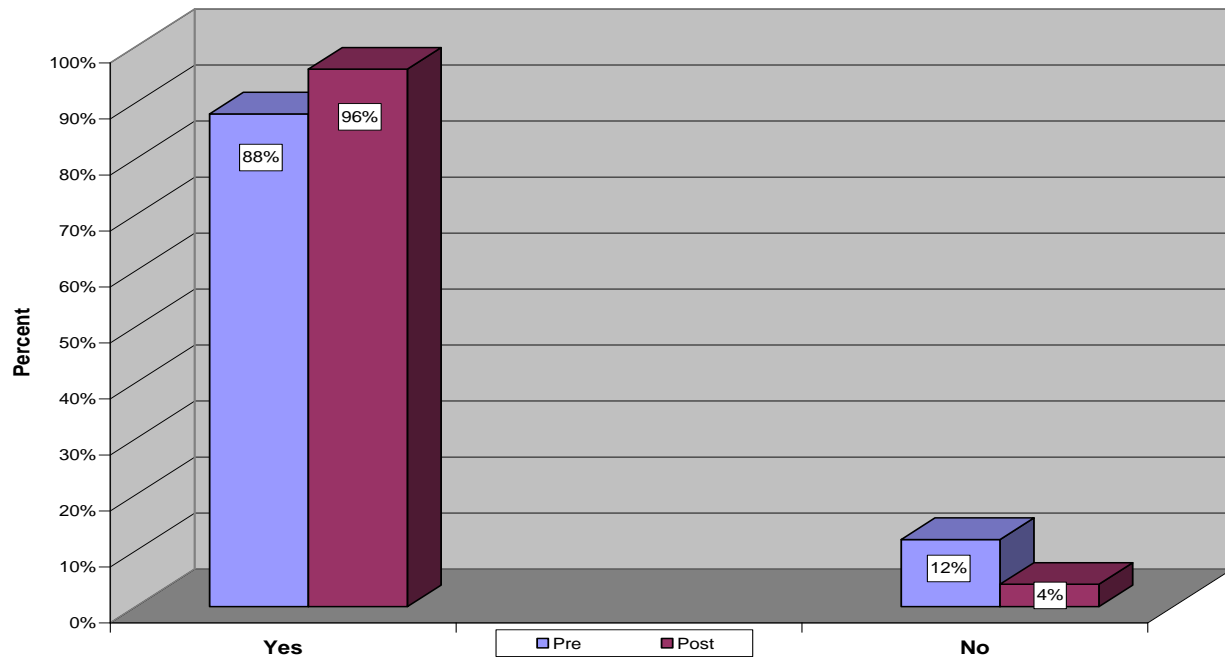
Question 1 – I know my main learning style.



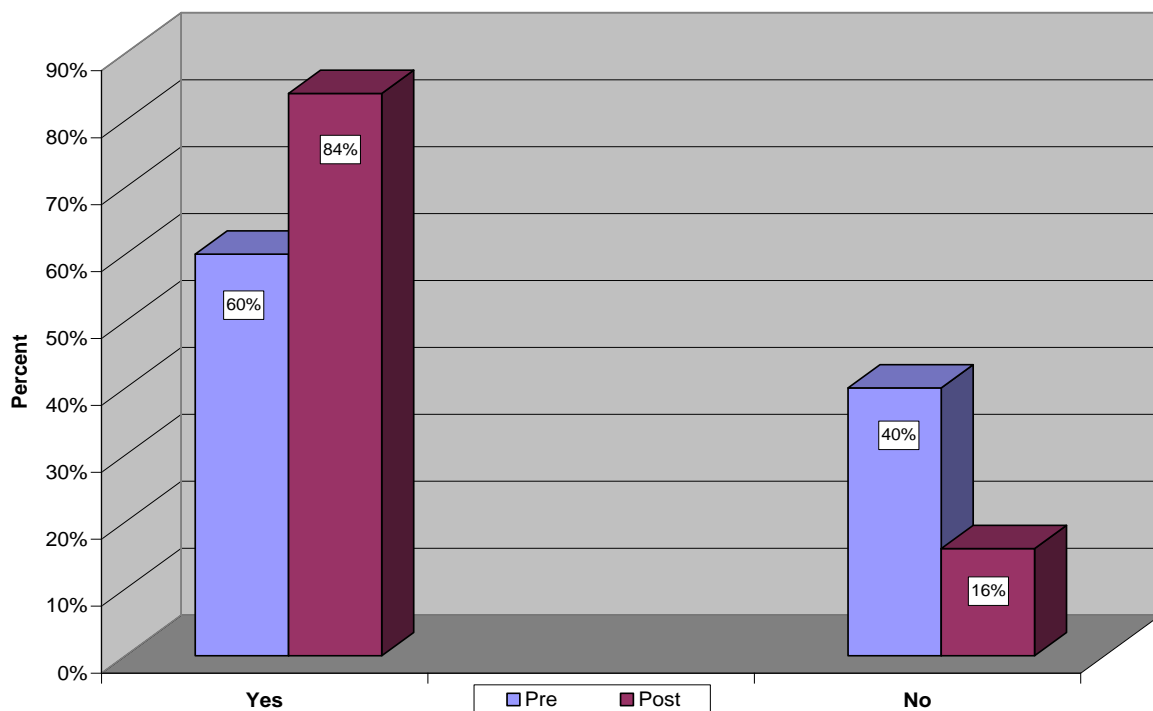
Question 2 – I know my personality type (Holland Code).



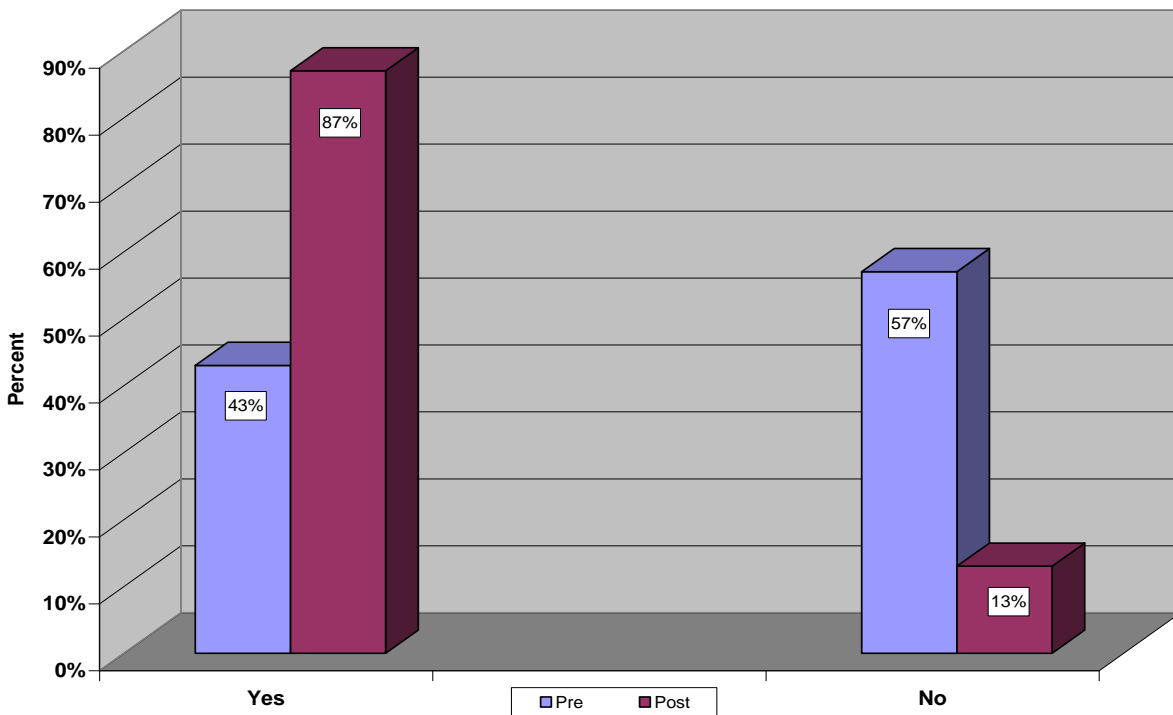
Question 3 – I know that understanding my strengths, interests, and abilities can help me make good career choices.



Question 4 – I understand personality types and career choices are related.



Question 5 – I have at least one career choice.



DISCUSSION

The data shows that the CTE guidance curriculum of lessons #6 and #9 help students increase in understanding of the relationship between self-awareness and defining educational and career interests and goals. The significant improvement in the five questions ranging from 8% to 44% increases indicates that the guidance curriculum helped students define and identify their personality types and learning styles and relate them to career interests and goals. Students were engaged during the presentation, and participated in classroom discussion. From a subjective perspective students found the curriculum interesting.